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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/898,253

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Claude Basso

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05/19/2005

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CINDY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2161

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/898,253

Applicant(s)

BASSO ET AL.

Examiner

Cindy Nguyen

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9--24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments(filed 03/14/05)

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 12 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 12 and 20 contain subject matter "updating said pattern search prefix" which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Correction is appreciated required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 9-12, 14-20 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Guha (US 6539373).

Regarding claims 9 and 17, Guha discloses: a system and a computer program product for performing a pattern match search for a data string having a plurality of characters separated by delimiters, said method comprising: means defining a subset of characters as delimiters such that all remaining characters are defined as non-delimiters (col. 8, lines 10-22, Guha);

Means for constructing a search key by: generating a full match search increment comprising the binary representation of a data string element, wherein said data string element includes a plurality of non-delimiters between a pair of delimiters (col. 8, lines 35-42, Guha); and

concatenating a pattern search prefix to said full match search increment to form said search key, wherein said pattern search prefix is a cumulative pattern search result of each previous full match search increment (col. 8, lines 35-60, Guha);

Means for performing a full match search within a lookup table utilizing said search key (col. 10, lines 15-21, Guha); means for returning to said constructing a search key, in response to finding a matching pattern within said lookup table (col. 10,

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lines 15-21, Guha); means for utilizing previous full match search result to process said data string in response to not finding a matching pattern within said lookup table (col. 9, lines 32-51, Guha).

Regarding claims 10 and 18, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 9 and 17 above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: wherein said system further includes processing means for pointing to a character within said data string prior to constructing a search key (col. 9, lines 10-30, Guha).

Regarding claims 11 and 19, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 10 and 18 above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: wherein said constructing a search key further comprises:

Means for evaluating said character within said data string to determine whether or not said character is a delimiter (col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 22, Guha);

Means for in response to a determination that said character within said data string being a delimiter: delivering a full match search increment into a search key register, wherein said search increment comprises a binary representation of all non-delimiters between said delimiter and an immediately preceding delimiter (col. 8, lines 10-22, Guha); and

concatenating said pattern search prefix to said search increment within said search key element (col. 8, lines 10-22);

means in response to said character within said data string not being a delimiter for appending a binary representation of said search increment; and incrementing said pointer (col. 9, lines 10-30, Guha).

Regarding claims 12 and 20, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 9 and 17 above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: wherein said system further includes means responsive to finding a matching pattern for updated said pattern search prefix (col. 7, lines 46-57, Guha).

Regarding claims 14 and 22, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 9 and 17 above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: wherein said data string is a Universal Resource Indicator address, and said data string element is a URI element (col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 22, Guha).

Regarding claims 15 and 23, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 14 and 22, above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: wherein said delimiters include period characters or slash characters (col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 22, Guha).

Regarding claims 16, 24, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 14 and 22, above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: wherein said step of constructing a search key further include: means for scanning an IP data packet to determine a first URI element to be parsed (col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 22, Guha); means for initializing a URI pointer to a first character within said first URI element (col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 22, Guha); and means for initializing said pattern search prefix to zero (col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 22, Guha).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 13 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guha (US 6539373) in view of Bronstein et al. (US 6735670) (Bronstein).

Regarding claims 13 and 21, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 9 and 17 above, respectively. In addition, Guha discloses: determining whether or not a full match for said search key exists within said a hash table by: hashing said search key to produce a hash key result (col. 8, lines 35-60, Guha). However, Guha didn't disclose: indexing a hash table utilizing said hash key result to find a matching stored pattern; and resolving collisions in said hash table utilizing a pattern search control block. On the other hand, Bronstein discloses: disclose: indexing a hash table utilizing said hash key result to find a matching stored pattern (col. 7, lines 35-53, Bronstein); resolving collisions in said hash table utilizing a pattern search control block (col. 9, lines 39-53, Bronstein). Thus, at the time invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include step for indexing a hash table and resolving collisions in said hash table utilizing a

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pattern search control block in the system of Guha r as taught by Bronstein. The motivation being to enable the system provide the function operative to generated an index in accordance with a key input, a hash table having a plurality of entries and adapted to store the elements in accordance with their corresponding indexes, and apply the index to the hash table and us the element generated in the event.

1. Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cindy Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-305-4698. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7240 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.


Cindy Nguyen
May 4, 2005


FRANTZ COBY
PRIMARY EXAMINER